

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

82D CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT  
2d Session } No. 2451

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1953

JULY 3, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. KIRWAN, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7176]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 7176) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 2, 15, 28, 33, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 47, and 48.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 1, 4, 8, 13, 16, 17, 29, 32, 34, 35, 36, 40, 43, 45, 46, 50, 52, and 53, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 6:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 6, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$11,000,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 10:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 10, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$51,801,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 11:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 11, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$13,253,760; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 12:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 12, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$17,500,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 18:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 18, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$4,000,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 19:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 19, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum named in said amendment insert \$3,200,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 20:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 20, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$177,797,991; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 26:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 26, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$5,250,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 31:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 31, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert \$14,770,000; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 54:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 54, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken out and inserted by said amendment insert:

*Sec. 402. (a) No part of the money appropriated by this Act to any department, agency, or corporation or made available for expenditure by any department, agency, or corporation which is in excess of 90 per centum of the amount required to pay the compensation of all persons the budget estimates for personal services heretofore submitted to the Congress for the fiscal year 1953 contemplated would be employed by such department, agency, or corporation during such fiscal year in the performance of--*

(1) function performed by a person designated as an information specialist, information and editorial specialists, publications and information coordinator, press relations officer or counsel, photographer, radio expert, television expert, motion picture expert, or publicity expert, or designated by any similar title, or

(2) functions performed by persons who assist persons performing the functions described in (1) in drafting, preparing, editing, typing, duplicating or disseminating public information, publications, or releases, radio or television scripts, magazine articles, photographs, motion picture and similar material, shall be available to pay the compensation of persons performing the functions described in (1) or (2).

(b) This section shall not apply to the preparation for publication of reports and maps resulting from authorized scientific and engineering investigations and surveys, to photography incident to the compilation and reproduction of maps and reports, or publications of the National Park Service, or to photocopying of permanent records for preservation.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 55:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 55, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken out and inserted by said amendment insert:

SEC. 403. No part of any appropriation or authorization contained in this Act shall be used to pay the compensation of any incumbent appointed to any civil office or position which may become vacant during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1952: Provided, That this inhibition shall not apply to—

- (a) not to exceed 25 percent of all vacancies;
- (b) positions filled from within the department;
- (c) offices or positions required by law to be filled by appointment of the President and with the advice and consent of the Senate;
- (d) positions the personnel of which are engaged in health and safety, law enforcement, soil and moisture, and activities in the field, exclusive of administrative personnel not directly connected with such activities;
- (e) seasonal and casual workers;
- (f) employees of the Bureau of Mines;
- (g) employees of the Geological Survey;
- (h) employees in grades CPC 1, 2, and 3;
- (i) salaries and expenses, Office of the Secretary;
- (j) employees paid wholly from trust funds, or funds derived by transfer from trust accounts, or to employees paid from appropriation of, or measured by, receipts:

Provided further, That when the total number of personnel subject to this section has been reduced to 90 per centum of the total provided for in the budget estimates, such limitation may cease to apply and said 90 per centum shall become a ceiling for employment during the fiscal year 1953, and if exceeded at any time during fiscal year 1953 this provision shall again become operative.

And the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 56:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 56, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment insert:

*Sec. 404. (a) No appropriation or authorization contained in this Act shall be available to pay—*

- (1) for travel of personnel,*
- (2) for personal services of personnel above basic rates, or*
- (3) for transportation of things (other than mail), more than 90 per centum of the amount which the budget estimates heretofore submitted in connection with such appropriation or authorization contemplated would be expended therefrom for such purposes, respectively; and the total amount of each appropriation, any part of which is available for any such purpose, is hereby reduced by an amount equal to 10 per centum of the amount requested in such budget estimates for such purpose, less an amount representing the reduction, if any, between the amount requested for personal services in budget estimates and the amount appropriated herein for such services.*
- (b) This section shall not apply to appropriations for—*
  - (1) activities for health and safety, law enforcement, soil and moisture, and activities in the field, exclusive of administrative employees not directly connected with such activities;*
  - (2) seasonal and casual workers;*
  - (3) the Bureau of Mines;*
  - (4) the Geological Survey;*
  - (5) employees in grades GPC 1, 2, and 3;*
  - (6) salaries and expenses, Office of the Secretary; and*
  - (7) activities paid wholly from trust funds, or funds derived by transfer from trust accounts, or to activities paid from appropriations of, or measured by, receipts.*

And the Senate agree to the same.

The committee of conference report in disagreement amendments numbered 3, 5, 7, 9, 14, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 30, 44, 49, and 51.

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*Managers on the Part of the Senate.*

STATEMENT OF THE MANAGERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 7176) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953, and for other purposes, submit the following statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon and recommended in the accompanying conference report as to each of such amendments, namely:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ENFORCEMENT OF CONNALLY HOT OIL ACT

Amendment No. 1—*Expenses*: Appropriates \$187,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$170,000 as proposed by the House.

CONSTRUCTION, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

Amendment No. 2: Appropriates \$959,500 as proposed by the House instead of \$115,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the figure agreed upon by the conferees \$844,500 is for the Clark Hill-Greenwood 115-kilovolt transmission line, \$25,000 is for planning of the Jim Woodruff-Wiregrass 115-kilovolt transmission line, and \$90,000 is for plans and specifications for future programs.

Amendment No. 3: Reported in disagreement.

CONTINUING FUND, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

Amendment No. 4: Appropriates \$1,000,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$231,000 as proposed by the House. The managers, while approving the Senate amendment, desire to reiterate the statements made in the report of the Committee on Appropriations at the time the bill was reported to the House (H. Rept. 1628) as to pending litigation. At that time it was thought that no funds would be required until the Congress will again be in session but later developments indicate that the amount provided in the Senate amendment will be required regardless of the outcome of law suits referred to in the report above referred to. The action here is intended only to provide such funds as appear to be necessary to meet the responsibilities of the Government until such time as the rights of all parties have been determined by the courts. Nothing herein or in the accompanying conference report should be construed as indicating any attitude on the part of the conference or any of the managers as to the issues involved in the pending litigation.

Managers on the part of both Houses hope that the contract now under negotiation with 12 private power companies in the Southwestern Power area can be consummated at an early date and in a manner that may make unnecessary any further litigation.

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BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 5: Reported in disagreement.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

Amendment No. 6: Appropriates \$11,000,000 instead of \$9,722,605 as proposed by the House and \$11,172,605 as proposed by the Senate. Included in the amount allowed is \$700,000 for the timber-salvage program as requested in Senate Document No. 121.

CONSTRUCTION

Amendment No. 7: Reported in disagreement.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 8: Authorizes the purchase of 45 automobiles as proposed by the Senate instead of 36 as proposed by the House.  
Amendment No. 9: Reported in disagreement.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE SERVICES

Amendment No. 10: Appropriates \$51,801,000 instead of \$51,266,019 as proposed by the House and \$51,916,019 as proposed by the Senate. The increase above the House figure provides \$300,000 for public assistance payments to Indians in Arizona other than the Navajo and Hopi, and \$234,981 for operation of the Pipestone Indian School in Minnesota.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Amendment No. 11: Appropriates \$13,253,760 instead of \$12,949,760 as proposed by the House and \$13,900,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the increase above the House figure \$154,000 is to provide sanitary water facilities for the pueblo villages in New Mexico and \$150,000 is for improving range water sources on the Papago Reservation.

CONSTRUCTION

Amendment No. 12: Appropriates \$17,500,000 instead of \$5,310,000 as proposed by the House and \$31,312,000 as proposed by the Senate.  
Amendment No. 13: Inserts a provision as proposed by the Senate to prohibit the acquisition of land within the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The proviso also prohibits the acquisition of land or water rights within the States of Nevada, Oregon, and Washington either inside or outside the boundaries of existing reservations.  
Amendment No. 14: Reported in disagreement.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 15: Provides for the purchase of 260 automobiles as proposed by the House instead of 300 automobiles as proposed by the Senate.

TRIBAL FUNDS

Amendment No. 16: Appropriates \$2,920,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$2,335,000 as proposed by the House.

Amendment No. 17: Inserts a provision as proposed by the Senate to prohibit the acquisition of land or water rights within the States of Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, either inside or outside the boundaries of existing Indian reservations.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

Amendment No. 18: Appropriates \$4,000,000 instead of \$3,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Amendment No. 19: Provides that of the foregoing figure of \$4,000,000, \$3,200,000 shall be derived from the reclamation fund instead of \$2,200,000 as proposed by the House and \$4,200,000 as proposed by the Senate.

CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION

Amendment No. 20: Appropriates \$177,797,991 instead of \$153,355,400 as proposed by the House and \$183,406,531 as proposed by the Senate. In arriving at the conference figure the managers of both Houses have approved the construction program as set forth in the House report and modified in the Senate report with the exception that the \$2,913,600 proposed by the Senate for the Jamestown-Fargo-Fergus Falls-Benson-Granite Falls-Mankato-Blue Earth-Jackson-Fort Randall 230-kilovolt lines and substations is specifically disallowed, and a further reduction of \$2,694,940 to offset 1952 unobligated balances available in 1953 has been made.

While the managers have agreed to the inclusion of funds amounting to \$14,950,000 for 10 "new starts" as proposed by the Senate, it is pointed out that 89 percent of the total cost of these projects is repayable.

Funds for the Salano County project in California have been allowed with the understanding that they will not be used to initiate construction of the project until there is a determination as to whether or not the project is to be constructed as a unit of the Central Valley project. It is further understood that this determination is not to be made until all local interests have had an opportunity to be heard by the proper legislative committee with respect to the question of reauthorization of the project.

The managers on the part of both the Senate and the House reaffirm the language concerning the CVP-BPA interconnection and Camp Stoneman items which is included in both the House and Senate reports. It is further directed that expenditures for construction at Tracy and Folsom switchyards and the Folsom interconnecting

transmission line and necessary connecting switches be confined to 230 kilovolts only as required in the Senate report. Also, as required by the Senate report, at the Tracy switchyard the 115- and 69-kilovolt equipment should be removed as recently ordered by the Secretary of the Interior.

Amendment No. 21: Reported in disagreement.

Amendment No. 22: Reported in disagreement for technical reasons. The managers on the part of the House will move to recede and concur with this amendment inserted in the bill by the Senate. The amendment provides that \$1,415,000 of the appropriation for "Construction and rehabilitation, Bureau of Reclamation," shall be expended for completion of the Coachella division of the All-American Canal system. These funds as well as other funds appropriated in the 1952 bill are over and above the \$13,500,000 cost originally set on the project and fixed in the repayment contract. Suit has been entered by the Justice Department in the United States District Court of Southern California to determine the liability of the water district for repayment of the funds appropriated in addition to the \$13,500,000 stipulated in the repayment contract. Conferees of both Houses have agreed on the additional appropriation in this bill with the expectation that the law suit will be tried on the merits of the case without introduction of technicalities, in accordance with assurances given the House managers in written statements by the counsel for the water district and district attorney of California. Should the case be decided in favor of the Government, it is expected that the water district will immediately enter into a supplemental repayment contract for the full amount appropriated above the original \$13,500,000.

Amendment No. 23: Reported in disagreement.

Amendment No. 24: Reported in disagreement.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Amendment No. 25: Reported in disagreement.

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Amendment No. 26: Appropriates \$5,250,000 instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 27: Reported in disagreement.

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Amendment No. 28: Appropriates \$25,362,685 as proposed by the House instead of \$25,301,100 as proposed by the Senate. The appropriation of \$25,362,685 is to be distributed among the activities of the Survey as set out in the Senate report with the exception that the amount allowed for topographic surveys and mapping is to be reduced by \$138,415 and the amount allowed for water resources investigations is to be increased by \$200,000.



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BUREAU OF MINES

CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Amendment No. 29: Appropriates \$18,657,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$18,000,000 as proposed by the House. Of the amount allowed, \$75,000 is to be used for the testing and gasification research on coals of the Pacific Northwest. Also, in addition to the amount budgeted for mine flood prevention studies, \$84,800 is to be used for this purpose. In making the necessary budgetary adjustments to handle these two items, no reduction is to be made in the funds budgeted for the synthetic liquid fuels program.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 30: Reported in disagreement.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CONSTRUCTION

Amendment No. 31: Appropriates \$14,770,000 instead of \$11,770,000 as proposed by the House and \$19,670,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have allowed \$500,000 for the Blue Ridge Parkway. The remaining part of the increase above the House figure is to be used for roads, trails, and parkways, except the Suitland Parkway.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Amendment No. 32: Appropriates \$1,342,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,262,000 as proposed by the House.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 33: Provides for the purchase of 19 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only as proposed by the House instead of 24 as proposed by the Senate.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

Amendment No. 34: Appropriates \$7,325,375 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$7,292,000 as proposed by the House. The program is to be adjusted in accordance with the list of increases and decreases set forth in the Senate report.

INVESTIGATIONS OF RESOURCES

Amendment No. 35: Appropriates \$4,062,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$4,056,000 as proposed by the House.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Amendment No. 36: Appropriates \$673,800 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$450,000 as proposed by the House. The increase above the House figure is to be distributed to various projects in the amounts and in the manner set out in the Senate report.

#### OFFICE OF TERRITORIES

##### ADMINISTRATION OF TERRITORIES

Amendments Nos. 37, 38, and 39: These amendments delete language with reference to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands proposed to be inserted by the Senate.

Amendment No. 40: Appropriates \$9,320,287 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$8,703,037 as proposed by the House.

Amendments Nos. 41 and 42: Language proposed by the Senate with reference to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in these two amendments has been deleted.

Amendment No. 43: Strikes out the language proposed by the House for making an appropriation to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Amendment No. 44: Reported in disagreement.

#### ALASKA PUBLIC WORKS

Amendment No. 45: Appropriates \$13,208,200 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$7,000,000 as proposed by the House. In the House proposal of \$7,000,000 allowance had been made for all projects for which elections had been held approving the assumption of local indebtedness to the extent required by law, and for which plans had been completed or were in the final stages of development. Since passage of the House bill additional projects have been advanced to meet this criteria and the amount agreed upon in conference is for these projects as set forth in the table in the Senate report.

Amendment No. 46: Provides that not to exceed \$654,000 shall be available for administrative expenses as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$486,000 as proposed by the House.

#### ALASKA RAILROAD REVOLVING FUND

Amendments Nos. 47 and 48: Strike out the proposal of the Senate to increase statutory limits on salary rates to be paid certain personnel of the Alaska Railroad.

#### ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 49: Reported in disagreement.

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TITLE II—VIRGIN ISLANDS CORPORATION

REVOLVING FUND

Amendment No. 50: Appropriates \$1,515,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$975,000 as proposed by the House. The amount allowed includes \$690,000 for the acquisition of power facilities now operated by the St. Thomas Power Authority. A total of \$150,000 included in the budget estimates for agricultural diversification and marketing is specifically disallowed.

TITLE III—EMERGENCY FLOOD AND STORM REPAIRS

Amendment No. 51: Reported in disagreement.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Amendment No. 52: Changes a title number.

Amendment No. 53: Changes a Section number.

Amendment No. 54: Strikes out the proposal of the House for limiting the use of funds for publicity purposes, and adopts the proposal of the Senate to impose limitations upon expenditures for such purposes but modifies the Senate proposal by limiting the amount of funds allowed for such purposes to 90 percent of the estimates therefor instead of 75 percent.

Amendment No. 55: Strikes out the proposal of the Senate to limit the amount available for personnel services to 90 percent of the amount requested in the budget estimates for such services, reinserts the Jensen amendment as proposed by the House with the provision that two additional categories of personnel be exempted from provisions of the amendment and sets as a maximum for reductions required 10 percent of the total number of employees provided for in the budget estimates rather than 10 per cent of the total provided for in the act.

Amendment No. 56: Inserts a section as proposed by the Senate limiting the use of funds for payment of civilian personnel above basic rates, transportation of things and travel of civilian personnel to not more than 90 percent of the amount programed in the budget estimates therefor. The Senate proposal has been altered to provide for the exception of the same categories of personnel as are exempted from operation of the Jensen amendment.

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